



June 8, 2005

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WPAN

By [Boyd Webb](#), Strategic Network Planner

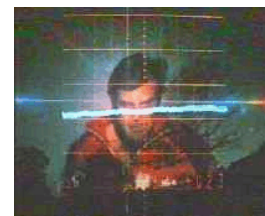
In the ever changing hierarchy of wireless networking, Wireless Personal Area Networking (WPAN) is one of the most promising technologies on the emerging horizon. The concept of personal area networking began several years ago around the development of the [Bluetooth](#) wireless protocol. Early applications included wireless telephone headsets and input/output peripheral devices used primarily with cellular telephones.



PDA manufacturers eventually came on board with limited applications allowing handheld computers to "connect" through a Bluetooth enabled cellular phone. Other emerging technologies like [WiFi 802.11](#), [WiMax 802.16](#), and [Ultra Wide Band \(UWB\) 802.15](#), while not in direct head-to-head competition with Bluetooth, nevertheless slowed the development of the standard. The cost advantages of infrared (IR) over Bluetooth in the personal area networking space also took a toll on the besieged networking protocol.

Recent advances are finally beginning to turn the tide in favor of the Bluetooth protocol standard, and with that comes a renewed interest in WPAN. Personal Area Networking is usually thought to involve wireless connectivity in 30' proximity or less. The short distance technology lends itself to the wireless connectivity and extension of keyboards, printers, video projectors, and other peripheral devices. Peer-to-peer connectivity between a PDA and desktop computer, or a pair of laptops is also part of the WPAN architecture, with or without Bluetooth.

Now, as predicted by a handful of technologists a decade ago, this is only the tip of the iceberg for WPAN. Personal area networking is currently being redefined by neuromorphic electronics research groups working to develop implantable artificial sensory in humans. Sounds a little science fiction, but live tests are underway to restore sight and sounds to otherwise permanently disabled individuals. The real story is in the convergence of medical science with electronics, and data networking, to facilitate and even improve upon the normal human condition. Electronic eyes and ears, robotic artificial limbs, and other replacement devices, will soon become part of WPAN architecture wirelessly connected to the brain. Does anyone remember the late 70's television show called "The Six Million Dollar Man?"



Some information cited from: *Scientific American*, May 2005, p.56.

Bureau of EMS Helps Fund Wireless

By [Floyd Ritter](#), Strategic Network Planner

In addition to my regular duties as the state's Strategic Wireless Planner, I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity to serve as the [Bureau of EMS' Communications Coordinator](#). Usually, these duties consist of assisting agencies



in filing their annual communications grant applications with the Bureau. But with the new availability of Homeland Defense and Bio-Terrorism grants, the coordination of wireless communication needs has taken on a whole new dimension.

Paul Patrick is the Bureau's Program Manager that I work with. He has been extremely forward-thinking and pro-active in assessing and meeting the financial needs of Utah's emergency service providers throughout the state. He has taught me that funding is more readily available when we have already researched needs and have a plan ready-to-go.

In the last two years, Paul Patrick has helped deliver more than \$1M in funding for agencies wireless portable, pager, mobile, base station, and even special project needs. After sending out information requests to Public Safety Access Points (PSAPs) around the state, I have compiled an additional \$765K in wireless needs for the year ahead. I have little doubt that Paul will once again come through for our public safety agencies. If your agency has benefitted from his efforts, take a minute and drop him a line of thanks!

paulpatrick@utah.gov

Wolf Coach Demonstration

By Doug Chandler

If mobile Incident Command is 'your thing', then don't miss the Wolf Coach demonstration at the local manufacturing facility:

Wolf Coach
1435 West 8040 South
West Jordan, Utah 84088
Date: June 16th, 2005
Demo hours: 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.



In addition to a tour of the facility, take a look at the Sentinel. The Sentinel Series Coach is a 20' mobile command post. It has 3 operator work stations. I couldn't find a Mr. Coffee in the specs, but otherwise it looks quite impressive.

Job Announcement

Homeland Security Program Specialist

The Department of Homeland Security is announcing a program specialist position:

GS-13: \$74,782 - \$97,213 per annum

GS-14: \$88,369 - \$114,882 per annum

Among other qualifications, the applicant must possess "*skill in evaluating and implementing land mobile radio and wireless radio systems technologies*". Sorry, you'll have to move to Washington. For more information about the position, visit the following link:

<http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=30662042&AVSDM=2005%2D05%2D31+15%3A54%3A57&Logo=0&pg=2&q=tsa+&FedEmp=N&sort=rv&vw=d&brd=3876&ss=0&FedPub=Y>

Thanks to Jerry Rogers with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for the head-up on this notice.

Calendar

Wolf Coach Demo

1435 West 8040 South

West Jordan, Utah 84088

Date: June 16th, 2005

Demo hours: 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

911 Committee

Thursday June 16, 2005

10:00am - Noon

Rampton Complex

4501 South 2700 West

UHP Large Conference Room

UCAN Meeting

Tuesday June 21, 2005

2:00 - 4:00 pm

VECC

5360 South 5885 West

Salt Lake City

Utah Sheriff's Association 10th Annual Conference and Exposition

St. George Dixie Center

September 11-13

[Conference Link](#)

Editor

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